

**Updt Off**

## Auto Update

The RADS display can be set so that products and images automatically display when they are available from the algorithm processes. When the Auto Update button is turned on all “volumetric products” (those products that are created in each volume scan, such as Precipitation algorithm accumulation images, Mesocyclone Detection Algorithm detection overlays, tabular output) and the elevation angle images (0.5°, 1.5°, 2.4°...) automatically update. When the Auto Update button is turned off products can only update when a new volume is manually selected.

To turn on the Auto Update feature:

1) When off, the Auto Update “button” in the lower-right corner of the RADS Control Panel will flash red.

2) To turn on the Auto Update feature, click on the

**Updt Off**

button in the lower-right corner of the

RADS Control Panel. The button will turn black

**Updt On**

and stay black until the feature is turned

off.

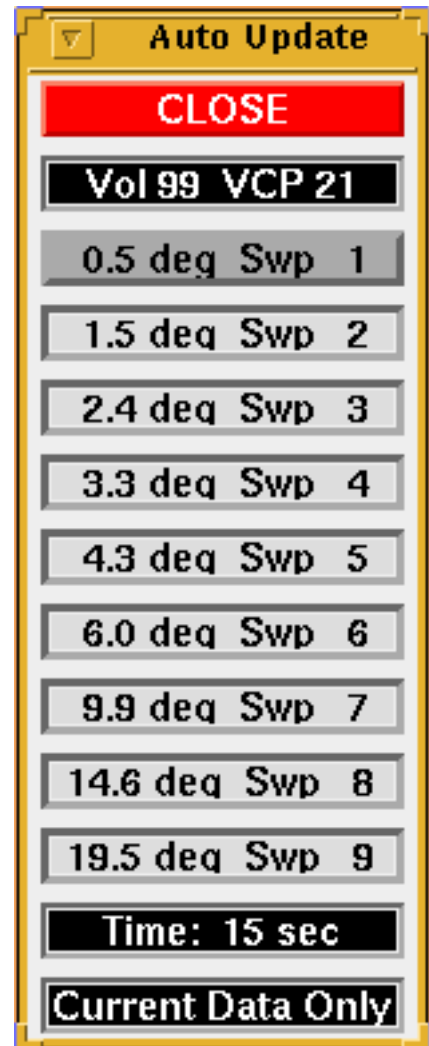


Figure 2.29  
Auto Update Menu

By default, all “volumetric products” are updated and the 0.5° elevation images will automatically update when the Auto Update feature is turned on.

To change the elevation images which are automatically updated:

1) Click on the **Prefer** button in the RADS Control Panel.

2) Click on **Auto Update** in the PREFER Menu.





3) Select those elevation angles you wish to have automatically display (Figure 2.29). Those with the “black” background are those that are “selected.”

4) Close the “elevation angle” menu and the **Prefer** Menu using the

**CLOSE**

RADS, by default, searches for the latest available products to display every 15 seconds, while the Auto Update feature is turned on.

To change the frequency with which RADS searches for the latest available products:

- 1) Click on the  button in the RADS Control Panel.
- 2) Click on  in the PREFER Menu.
- 3) Click on the “time” button at the bottom of the PREFER Menu until the desired frequency is displayed. **NOTE: The more frequent this time setting, the more often RADS will search for new products. When searching for new products to display, RADS will momentarily “freeze” while trying to display the new products.**
- 4) Close the “elevation angle” menu and the  Menu using the  button on each menu.

#### NOTES ON THE AUTO UPDATE FEATURE

- 1) Only products “turned on” will display automatically when the Auto Update feature is turned on. For example, for the Cell Table to automatically update, the Cell Table must be selected on.
- 2) If a manual selection of the volume scan number or sweep number (elevation angle), the Auto Update feature is turned off. Once examination of the manually selected data is complete and you wish to return to Auto Update mode, it is recommended you display the latest available data and then turn the Auto Update feature on.

## Panels: MULTIPANEL DISPLAY

The **RADS Multipanel Display** feature allows the user to view two, four, six, or eight associated images simultaneously. It also allows the user to specify the type of image (**reflectivity**, **radial velocity**, **storm relative velocity**, or **composite reflectivity**) and the sweep number for each image. A drawing tool and the linked windows feature are available in a Multipanel Display for easy-to-add user enhancements. This feature is particularly useful for storm analysis and tracking.

**RADS** Multipanel displays are defined and created using the

**Panels** button on the **RADS Control Panel**. When activated, the **Panels** button causes the Panel menu to be displayed,

as in Figure 2.30. The Multipanel menu allows you to define the type of Multipanel display you wish to use (with the

**Set Parameters** button), or to create a new Multipanel display

(using the **Create Panel** button).

Before using the **Create Panel** button, users should first use the **Set Parameters** button to set desired panel parameters.

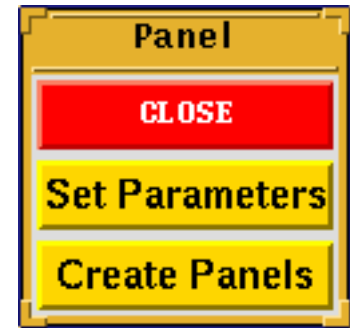


Figure 2.30: The Panels Menu for Multipanel Displays.

## SETTING MULTIPANEL PARAMETERS

The **Set Parameters** button allows the user to define which type of panel will be displayed

(with 2, 4, 6 or 8 images), the fields to be displayed, magnification, and the volume scan and sweep associated with each image.

## Activating the Multipanel Parameters Window (PrmShell)

To use the **Multipanel Parameters window**, it must first be activated.

1. Activate the Panel menu by clicking on the **Panels** button on the **Control Panel**. (Figure 2.30)
2. Click on the **Set Parameters** button with <left-mouse>. The **Multipanel Parameters window** appears (PrmShell), as in Figure 2.31.

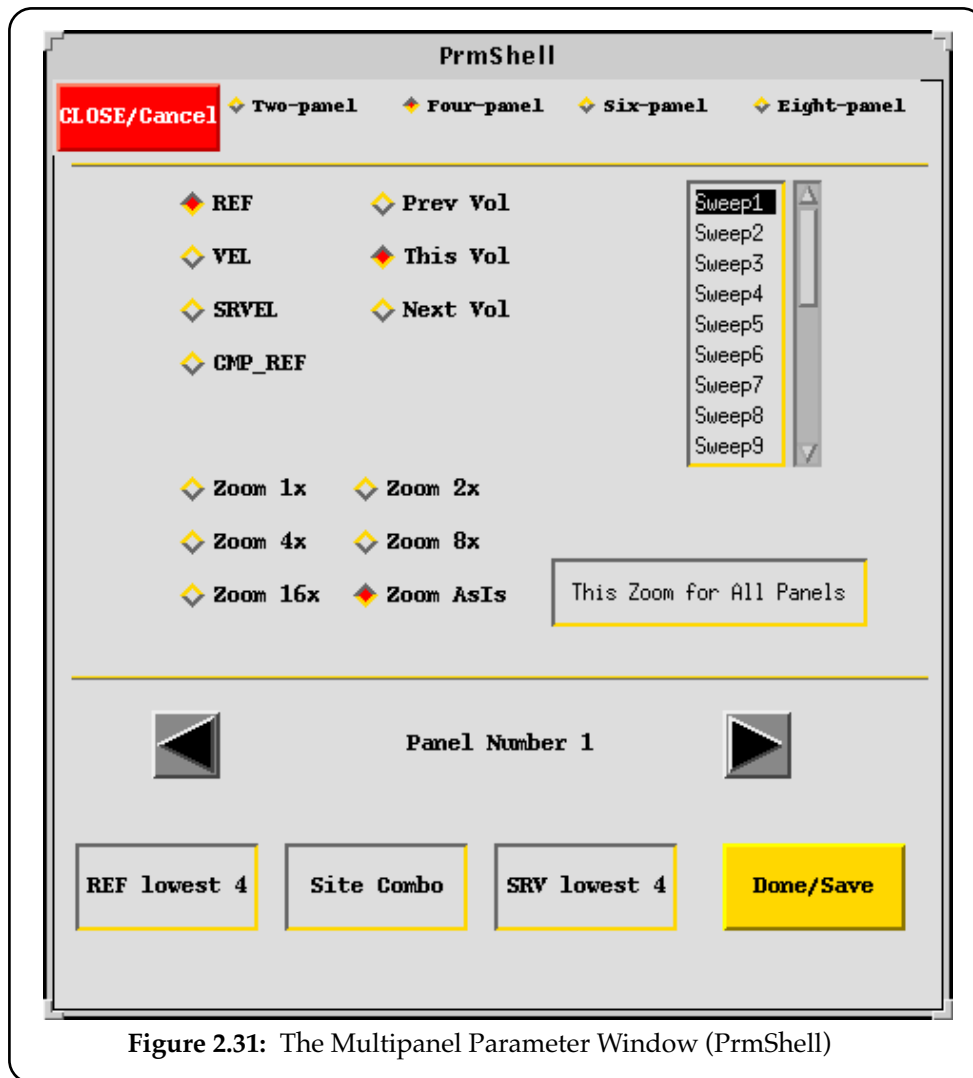


Figure 2.31: The Multipanel Parameter Window (PrmShell)

## Multipanel Parameter Configuration

The next step is to choose desired options from the Multipanel Parameters window, Figure 2.31. From this parameter-setting window, you may choose:

- *Predetermined configurations* which quickly give you a default collection of settings. These include the **Ref Lowest 4**, **SRV Lowest 4**, and **Site Combo**, or
- *Custom configurations that you define*, specifying the types of images, sweep numbers, zoom factors, and number of panels.

Instructions for each method will be outlined in the following sections. Typically, users will set the parameters once during a **RADS** session, but create many panels from those settings.

## Choosing a Predetermined Set of Parameters for the Multipanel Display

After activating the Multipanel Parameters Window (as outlined in the previous section, “[Activating the Multipanel Parameters Window](#)”), you may choose to use predetermined sets of parameters for your [Multipanel Display Window](#). (NOTE: If you do NOT wish to use predetermined parameters, go to “[Creating a Custom Set of Parameters for the Multipanel Display](#)”).

*To use a predetermined parameter set:*

1. Open a **reflectivity, storm relative velocity, or other relevant image** and select the **desired volume scan**. Set up the desired zoom and center points of the image. The Multipanel Display will utilize the zoom factor and center point you selected. If you skip this step, the Multipanel Display will use default zoom and centering values.

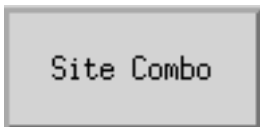
2. **Activate the Multipanel Parameters Window**, if not open, by pressing the

**Set Parameters** button. (The **Set Parameters** is accessed through the **Panels** button on the Control Panel.)

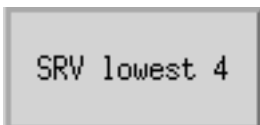
3. Click once on one (your choice) of the following buttons with <left-mouse>:



The **<REF lowest 4>** button is a predetermined set of parameters for the four lowest Reflectivity sweeps (both in sweep number and actual tilt of the radar) of the current volume scan.





The **< Site Combo>** button utilizes a predetermined set of parameters. By default, these user-defined settings are the lowest two Reflectivity and Storm Relative Velocity sweeps.







The **<SRV lowest 4>** button activates a predetermined set of parameters for the four lowest Storm Relative Velocity sweeps (both in sweep number and actual tilt of the radar) of the current volume scan. Note that Storm Relative Velocity is a derived value, calculated from the average storm motion of an entire sweep or volume scan.

Note that the Zoom values and center point will be set to “As Is” for the **<REF lowest 4>** and **<SRV lowest 4>** settings. This means that if you already have a **REF (reflectivity) image** activated that has a custom zoom and a custom center point that you chose, the **<REF lowest 4>** images will be zoomed to the same factor and have the same center point. For **<SRV lowest 4>**, use the associated **Storm Relative Velocity image**. **< Site Combo>** images will vary in the way that they are defined.

- Click on  once to save your settings.

Note that at this point you may click on  to exit the **Multipanel Parameter Window** without saving new parameters.

- Click on  to create a **Multipanel Display**. ( is on the  menu window, which is accessed on the **Control Panel**.)

***Only one Multipanel Display may be activated at a time.*** To create a new one after you have changed to a new volume scan, close a Multipanel display by clicking on the  button in the Multipanel Display window. Then repeat step five. Using the same parameters settings, you may generate multiple successive new Multipanel Displays from the same set of parameters.

Note that for 4, 6, and 8 panel displays, the center point and Zoom factor are set, according to the image settings and multipanel parameters, but the domain is smaller (cropped).